

8th Air Force



Safety Gram

October 2007

Fire Extinguisher Quick Tip

Stand several feet from the fire, depress the handle and sweep back and forth towards the base of the fire.



FIRE PREVENTION

Residential fires represent **23%** of all fires and **74%** of structure fires.

Fires in the home most often start in the:

Kitchen **29%**
Bedroom **13%**
Living Room **7%**
Chimney **5%**
Laundry Area **4%**



Prevent Fire

SMOKE ALARMS

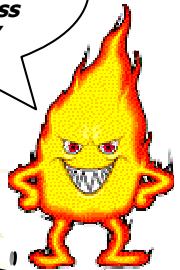


Each day, an average of three kids die in home fires - 1,100 children each year. About 3,600 children are injured in house fires each year. 90 percent of child fire deaths occur in homes without working smoke detectors.

Although smoke detectors are in 92 percent of American homes, nearly one-third don't work because of old or missing batteries.

A working smoke detector reduces the risk of dying in a home fire by nearly half.

Do your part to prevent
FIRE



Fire Prevention Tips

☒ Change Your Smoke Detector Batteries

The International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) and fire experts nationwide encourage people to change smoke detector batteries at least annually. An easy way to remember to

change your batteries is when you turn your clock back in the fall. Replace old batteries with fresh, high quality alkaline batteries, to keep your smoke detector going year-long.

☒ Check Your Smoke Detectors

After inserting a fresh battery in your smoke detector, check to make sure the smoke detector itself is working by pushing the safety test button.

☒ Vacuum Your Smoke Detectors

Each month, clean your smoke detectors of dust and cobwebs to ensure their sensitivity.

☒ Install Fire Extinguishers

Install a fire extinguisher in or near your kitchen and know how to use it. Should you need to purchase one, the IAFC recommends a multi- or all-purpose fire extinguisher that is listed by an accredited testing laboratory such as Underwriters Laboratory.

☒ Plan and Practice Your Escape

Create at least two different escape routes and practice them with the entire family. Children are at double the risk of dying in a home fire because they often become scared and confused during fires. Make sure your children understand that a smoke detector signals a home fire and that they recognize its alarm.

☒ Change Your Clock, Change Your Battery

The International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) and your local fire department urge you to adopt a simple, potentially lifesaving habit: change the batteries in your smoke detector when you change your clocks back to standard time in the fall.

Fire Statistics

U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated 1,602,000 fires. These fires resulted in 3,675 civilian fire fatalities, 17,925 civilian fire injuries and an estimated \$10,672,000,000 in direct property loss. There was a civilian fire death every 143 minutes and a civilian fire injury every 29 minutes in 2005. Home fires caused 3,030, or 82%, of the civilian fire deaths.

If this looks bad, that's because it is...



Fire Kills!

Remember To...

**Give Way To
Emergency Responders**



Have you taught your kids to...

**Stop,
Drop,
&
Roll**



What to do if your clothes catch fire!



4% of all residential fires were reportedly caused by smoking materials in 2002. These fires, however, were responsible for 19% of residential fire fatalities and 9% of injuries.



Think!

Safety